



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

May 29, 2019

MR. MATTHEW TOPIC
MUCKROCK NEWS
DEPT MR 72684
411A HIGHLAND AVENUE
SOMERVILLE, MA 02144

FOIPA Request No.: 1431163-000
Subject: Annual Funding to Improve Compliance with
the Freedom of Information Act

Dear Mr. Topic:

This is in reference to your letter to the FBI, in which you requested expedited processing for the above-referenced Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request. Under Department of Justice (DOJ) standards, expedited processing can only be granted in the following situations.

You have requested expedited processing according to:

- ☐ **28 C.F.R. §16.5 (e)(1)(i):** "Circumstances in which the lack of expedited treatment could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual."
- ☒ **28 C.F.R. §16.5 (e)(1)(ii):** "An urgency to inform the public about an actual or alleged federal government activity, if made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information."
- ☐ **28 C.F.R. §16.5 (e)(1)(iii):** "The loss of substantial due process of rights."
- ☐ **28 C.F.R. §16.5 (e)(1)(iv):** "A matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exist possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence."

You have not provided enough information concerning the statutory requirements for expedition; therefore, your request is denied.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA online portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division